

OPEN GOVERNMENT SUMMIT ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW AUGUST 1, 2008 9:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.



8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Check-in/Distribution of Material

9:00 – 9:05 a.m. Welcoming by David A. Logan, Dean, Roger Williams University

School of Law

9:05 – 9:15 a.m. Opening Remarks by Patrick C. Lynch, Attorney General

The Philosophy and Mission of the Department of Attorney General.

9:15 – 9:55 a.m. Access to Public Records Act Presentation by Michael W. Field and

Laura Ann Marasco, Special Assistant Attorneys General

Presentation will highlight how to determine whether a document is a public record and how to respond to a citizen's request. Other statutory requirements will be discussed and a 2007-2008 case law/legislative update will be provided.

Frequent trouble areas and advanced planning tips will also be reviewed.

9:55 – 10:35 a.m. Open Meetings Act Presentation by Michael W. Field and Laura

Ann Marasco, Special Assistant Attorneys General

Presentation will highlight how to determine when the Open Meetings Act applies and when an executive session is appropriate. Other statutory requirements, such as posting notice, amending school committee and non-school committee agendas, and maintaining minutes will be discussed. Frequent trouble areas and a 2007-2008 case law/legislative update will also

be reviewed. Hot topics of the year will be highlighted.

10:35 – 10:50 a.m. Break

10:50 – 11:30 a.m. Access to Public Records Act and Open Meetings Act Questions

and Answers

Questions posed in advance and asked at the Summit will be addressed.

11:30 – 12:30 p.m. Ethics Commission Presentation by Jason Gramitt, Rhode Island

Ethics Commission

Identifying and avoiding conflicts of interest under the Code of Ethics and discussion of guidelines for filing financial disclosure forms. For the Solicitors and Legal Practitioners in the audience, focus on ethical issues that emerge when advising public bodies and discuss strategy for handling these situations.

To reserve seating email agsummit@riag.ri.gov or contact 274-4400 ext 2101. Seating in the main lecture hall may be limited. For directions to the Roger Williams University School of Law visit http://law.rwu.edu/sites/visiting/maps. This Program is co-sponsored by the Roger Williams University Law Alumni Association and has been certified for 3.5 Continuing Legal Education Credits (includes 1 ethics credit). Questions may be submitted in advance by e-mail.